

Completion of the course should provide qualifications for employment with golf courses, parks boards, cemeteries, and nurseries, or in the field of landscape contracting.

The Niagara Parks Commission School for Horticulture

This school, located at Niagara Falls, Ontario, offers a diploma in gardening and ornamental horticulture; this is the Niagara Parks Diploma. The three-year course provides lectures in subjects directly pertaining to growth of plants in all fields of horticulture. At the same time the course is built around practical experience in maintenance of the Niagara Parks System.

This school prepares graduates for positions such as foremen and superintendents of parks; as landscape contractors; with commercial firms and government agencies; and with grounds maintenance and development sections of highways, cemeteries, and public institutions.

O.A.C. Diploma Course in Horticulture

The diploma course at the University of Guelph is a two-year course designed for those who intend to make practical horticulture a life's profession. Courses in botany, pathology, soils, and agricultural engineering are taken along with courses directly within horticulture, such as fruit and vegetable production, landscaping, and floriculture.

The training prepares a man for work in his own private business, or as a technician or fieldman for industry or government.

Colleges of Agricultural Technology

At Kemptville, Ridgeway, Centralia and New Liskeard, Diplomas in Agriculture are offered for study programs of one and two years. These include some vocational instruction in horticulture, but there is no opportunity for students to specialize in this field.

TRAINING BRINGS SUCCESS

Successful horticultural scientists have opportunities for satisfactory positions in Ontario such as —

President of a seed firm

Director of research in a company

Owner of a chain of florist shops

Owner of a nursery

Manager of a city market

Head of a University Horticultural Science Department

Landscape architect

Landscape contractor

Director of parks and recreation areas.

Only well-trained persons can hope to achieve outstanding success. Good knowledge of plants, how they grow, and the insects and diseases which attack them are essential. In high school, courses in science, English, agriculture, and mathematics are particularly helpful. Contrary to the generally accepted view that agricultural education depends solely on the sciences, in horticulture we recognize also the very great importance of the arts in relation to plants and their uses. Thus, there is in horticulture a good balance of emphasis between science and the humanities; this serves to make horticulture one of the most interesting and rewarding vocations.



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Careers In Horticultural Science

ONTARIO AGRICULTURE & FOOD
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What is horticultural science? It is the cultivation and utilization of fruits, vegetables and ornamental plants. Its products are around us in everyday living — fresh and processed fruit and vegetables, ornamental trees, shrubs and flowers, lawns and gardens, commercial greenhouses, orchards, and nurseries.

The present-day industry of horticulture is large and complex. The production occurs in the greenhouse, orchard, nursery, and field. Processing, marketing, sales inspection, and research are also part of horticulture, and they employ thousands of people in addition to those associated directly with production.

Today's fruits, vegetables, and ornamentals are produced on large highly mechanized farms and in extensive greenhouse ranges and orchards, all representing large investments. More and more, these units are requiring experienced people in management.

The rapid advance in the industry is seen in such developments as vacuum cooling; hormones to control fruit set and prevent fruit drop; hybrid varieties; concentrated fruit products; controlled atmosphere storage; chemical weed control; mist system of propagation; growth-regulating hormones; and the use of irradiation. Future new developments and their utilization will require further research and more horticultural scientists as research and extension workers.

There is a wide field of choice in positions related to Horticulture.

Academic Education in Horticultural Science

B.Sc. (Agr) Degree in Horticultural Science

The Department of Horticultural Science at the Ontario Agricultural College, University of Guelph, is divided into the following fields for teaching and research.

Olericulture: the outdoor and greenhouse growing and marketing of vegetable crops.

Pomology: the planting, growing, harvesting, and marketing of orchard and small fruits.

Post-harvest Physiology and Processing: canning, freezing, storing, and packaging of fruits and vegetables, juices, and flowers.

Environmental Horticulture: the study of shrubs, trees and lawns and their use in pleasing landscape designs.

A student majoring in horticultural science spends the first two years at the University of Guelph on basic

and general studies. In the third and fourth years, specialization in one field or a combination of the major fields starts. In addition, more advanced courses in related fields such as Botany, Chemistry, Soil Science, and Engineering are taken. Further studies leading to an advanced degree in one of these fields of horticultural science can also be undertaken.

Positions available for Horticultural Scientists

Production

Management and operation of a private enterprise such as a plant nursery, greenhouse, vegetable farm, orchard, landscape service, and processing firm.

Marketing

Selling fresh or processed fruits and vegetables, cut flowers, and nursery stock, at the wholesale or retail level. Or one might be a buyer of these products for agencies such as chain stores, hospitals, and wholesale distributors.

Teaching

There is a constant demand for teachers at the high school and university levels. Formal academic education in horticultural science fits the good student for specialist certificates in certain science subjects.

Extension

As the results of research work become more and more important in the field of horticultural science, there is an increasing need for extending these results to the primary workers — the producers, salesmen, packers, etc. This has created a place of real importance for the extension specialist in horticulture.

Research

Horticultural scientists are constantly working to improve the quality and yield of flowers, fruits, and vegetables, and to develop better methods of handling, processing, and marketing them. Specialists are employed in plant breeding, nutrition, canning and freezing, physiology, and other subjects at colleges and with government and private agencies.

Industry

Management, technical, and sales personnel are required by all commercial organizations handling horticultural products. They include those concerned with processing, seed, fertilizers, sprays, equipment, and general technical services.

Inspection

Governmental and industrial agencies employ qualified inspectors for both fresh crops and processed products.

Advertising

Publishing companies employ horticultural scientists as editors and advertising managers for newspapers and periodicals.

Landscape Architecture

Landscape architects employ horticultural scientists as consultants and planting specialists.

Landscape Contracting

Landscape contractors either are horticultural scientists or employ them as advisors.

Recreation

Horticultural scientists are employed as directors of parks, recreation areas, cemeteries, golf courses, etc.

Vocational Education in Horticulture

Several institutions in Ontario offer programs to provide graduates at the technical or support level. Included are:

The Horticulture Correspondence Course, University of Guelph

This course provides a three-year study of horticulture with a Diploma in Horticulture on graduation. Five subjects are carried each year of the course. There are no minimum standards for enrollment, and the course offers an opportunity for education in the field while enjoying earning power in practical horticultural work.